

Brookline Preservation Commission

Demolition Application Report

Address: 315 Lee Street

Petitioner: Estate of Dorothy Edinburg

Building type: House

National Register Listing (if Applicable): n/a



Historical/Architectural Significance:

The Mid-Century Cape brick and slate roof house at 315 Lee Street was built by John Freeman Bradley and Charles L. Hibbard Jr. for Harry Buchman Braude in 1951. The one story house, with second floor section in the rear, is setback from Lee Street. The long and low house includes a 3 bay garage attached to the main house by a breezeway. The house also includes character defining chimneys and unique storm windows.

John Bradley graduated from Harvard College in 1927 and MIT in 1932. Hibbard was born in Pittsfield, MA in 1904 and attended Williams College. They worked on various large residential projects throughout the Boston area. In 1954 they became part of Leland, Larsen, Bradley and Hibbard, (then in 1959 Larsen, Bradley, and Hibbard) a Boston area firm known for their commercial and institutional buildings, such as the Mid-Century Modern Episcopal Divinity School-Washburn Hall in Cambridge.

Harry B. Braude, a chemical engineer who was born in Michigan in 1892, commissioned the house on Lee Street. He was also the president of Chandler & Farquhar, a hardware and machinists supplies dealer then based in Boston. Braude was married to Bessie Kisloff Braude, a lawyer and judge and the two were parents to one child, Dorothy Braude Edinburg.

Dorothy studied at Walnut Hill School and then entered Wellesley College, where she studied art history and French. She married Joseph Edinburg and together they had three children. They built a lovely Mid-Century Modern house at 192 Fairway Road and a second Mid-Century Modern house on the lot behind at 1033 Boylston Street in Brookline.

Dorothy was an avid art collector and from a young age she began to collect works on paper reflecting the major artistic movements of the first half of the twentieth century. She had the highest standards and thoroughly researched all works that she considered for acquisition. During her lifetime, Dorothy was a supporter of a number of Boston-based institutions, but in the past two decades she developed a strong and rewarding relationship with the Art Institute of Chicago, giving it more than 1500 works of art between 1991 and 2014.

By 1992 Dorothy was residing at 315 Lee Street and become involved in a publicized feud with her next door neighbor at 333 Lee Street. The two women were at odds over political standpoints as well as a wedding business being run out of 333 Lee Street. Dorothy lived at the Lee Street house until her death in January 2015.

The house at 315 Lee Street meets the following criteria for an initial determination of significance:

- c. The building is associated with one or more significant historic persons or events, or with the broad architectural, cultural, political, economic, or social history of the Town or Commonwealth; and
- d. The building is historically or architecturally significant in terms of its period, style, method of construction, or its association with a significant architect or builder, either by itself or as part of a group of buildings.

The house retains its integrity in terms of its location setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling and association.



Lee Street, East Elevation



Garage, North Elevation



Rear, West Elevation



Southwest Corner, Sunroom



South Elevation



Window Detail